6/19/90

Sept 10 + 11.
Audubon - Tiburon.
Mon + Tues.
V.R. 6-7 OCT.

Teleconference Networking Meeting (Part 2)

History - Teleconferencing Network Meeting: Part 1

In March, 1990 the Whole Earth Institute played host to a group of technically oriented individuals representing different teleconferencing systems. Discussed at this session was how best to create tools that could promote interconnectivity of these systems.

Drawing on the strengths of all the individuals gathered at this meeting, it was opined that some rudimentary steps could be taken in a short amount of time to link the WELL with other networks. From this initial step could come specifications for the next generation of conferencing systems, a definition of interoperability between diverse conferencing units could be evolved and a design of architecture for future conferencing software be formed.

Since this meeting, several of these technically-oriented individuals have been working together to create the architecture and, as of this moment, it has been proven that information can be ported between the WELL and other local teleconferencing systems.

Why should another group meet now?

Before local systems are linked together in large numbers, it is probably wise for a select group of individuals versed in many fields to meet to discuss how the sharing process will be done on an equitable base. Many of the people involved in the technical design of the system will also be valuable in these discussions, but so too will be other folks whose expertise lies in publishing, negotiating and/or accounting fields.

Some questions to be answered by this group are:

what's the source of these questions? i.e., do you have key players' input?

- How will writers be compensated for sharing their words? Should they be compensated?
- Who will monitor what will be transferred to other systems?
- What is economically/socially viable?
- What are the legal ramifications?
- Who will monitor all this?
- How should different sized networks be compensated fairly?

Possible Attendees:

✓Mitch Kapor	PT	*ON Technology*
Paul Bernstein		Lawyer specializing in teleconferencing law
Stewart Brand	✓	Writer/Consultant
Doug Carlston	✓	*Broderbund Software*
John Coate	✓	*The WELL*
Bob DeWard		*Pac Bell*
Elliott Fabric		Lawyer
Cliff Figallo	✓	*The WELL*
✓Mark Graham		*Pandora Systems*
Tom Grundner		*Cleveland Freenet*
Corinne Hawkins	✓	Editorial Assistant, *Whole Earth Review*
Kenton Hoover	✓	*Computer Consultant*
Stacy Horn		*Echo*
IGC		
Stephanie Leonard	✓	*Whole Earth Institute*
Gerard Massad		Non-Profit Computer Teacher
Metanet		
Matt Minahan		World Bank
Howard Rheingold	✓	Editor, *Whole Earth Review*
Nancy Rhine	✓	*The WELL*
Hank Roberts	✓	*Computer Consultant*
Jim Rutt		*Independent Software Developer*
Jeff Shepard		TWICS (A Japanese network)
Kelly Teevan	✓	POINT Foundation

AT BD — SB — DC

POINT KT.

WELL WET WER

-FIG -SL -HR

-TEX -CH

-NANCY

-KENTON

ON HIS OWN.

HANK

FOUNDERS

M.K.

M.G.

Who will host this session?

As the interests of many different local teleconferencing systems will be represented at this session, it has been suggested that Whole Earth Institute again play host.

As a non-profit organization, the Institute could be the umbrella under which issues are discussed without partisan views. However, having limited funds, the Whole Earth Institute is looking for financial assistance in presenting this meeting which will have great impact on most of us in the near future.

When will this meeting occur?

Tentative plans for this meeting are to hold it on September 10th and 11th in Tiburon. The reason for a two-day session is purely the number of non-technical issues which must be addressed and perhaps only part of the group will stay over to the second day.